

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1871

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of the offense of petroleum product or oil
3 and gas equipment theft.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 31, Penal Code, is amended by adding
6 Section 31.19 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 31.19. THEFT OF PETROLEUM PRODUCT OR OIL AND GAS
8 EQUIPMENT. (a) In this section:

9 (1) "Oil and gas equipment" means machinery, drilling
10 equipment, welding equipment, pipe, fittings, pumps, vehicles, or
11 other equipment used in the drilling or maintenance of oil and gas
12 wells, in the production of oil and gas, or to transport petroleum
13 products.

14 (2) "Petroleum product" means crude oil, natural gas,
15 or condensate.

16 (b) A person commits an offense if the person unlawfully
17 appropriates a petroleum product with intent to deprive the owner
18 of the petroleum product by:

19 (1) possessing, removing, delivering, receiving,
20 purchasing, selling, moving, concealing, or transporting the
21 petroleum product; or

22 (2) making or causing a connection to be made with, or
23 drilling or tapping or causing a hole to be drilled or tapped in, a
24 pipe, pipeline, or tank used to store or transport a petroleum

1 product.

2 (c) A person commits an offense if the person unlawfully
3 appropriates oil and gas equipment with intent to deprive the owner
4 of the oil and gas equipment.

5 (d) Appropriation of a petroleum product or oil and gas
6 equipment is unlawful if it is without the owner's effective
7 consent.

8 (e) An offense under this section is:

9 (1) a state jail felony if the total value of the
10 petroleum product or oil and gas equipment appropriated is less
11 than \$10,000;

12 (2) a felony of the third degree if the total value of
13 the petroleum product or oil and gas equipment appropriated is
14 \$10,000 or more but less than \$100,000;

15 (3) a felony of the second degree if the total value of
16 the petroleum product or oil and gas equipment appropriated is
17 \$100,000 or more but less than \$300,000; or

18 (4) a felony of the first degree if the total value of
19 the petroleum product or oil and gas equipment appropriated is
20 \$300,000 or more.

21 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.